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## Biden vaccine mandates face first test with federal workers

By Colleen Long and Michael R. Sisak  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Joe Biden is pushing forward with a massive plan to require millions of private sector employees to get vaccinated by early next year. But first, he has to make sure workers in his own federal government get the shot.

About 4 million federal workers are to be vaccinated by Nov. 22 under the president's executive order. Some employees, like those at the White House, are nearly all vaccinated. But the rates are lower at other federal agencies, particularly those related to law enforcement and intelligence, according to the agencies and union leaders. And some resistant

workers are digging in, filing lawsuits and protesting what they say is unfair overreach by the White House. The upcoming deadline is the first test of Biden's push to compel people to get vaccinated. Beyond the federal worker rule, another mandate will take effect in January aimed at around 84 million private sector workers, according to guidelines put out this past week.

On Saturday, a federal appeals court in Louisiana temporarily halted the vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers. The administration says it is confident that the requirement will withstand legal challenges in part because its safety rules preempt state laws.

Continued on next page



The Oval Office is visible behind a U.S. Park Service worker watering in the Rose Garden in Washington, July 13, 2021. About 4 million federal workers, from FBI agents to Bureau of Prisons guards to U.S. Food and Drug Administration workers, are to be vaccinated by Nov. 22 under the president's executive order aimed at stopping the spread of the coronavirus. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File)

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**Continued from Front**

"The president and the administration wouldn't have put these requirements in place if they didn't think that they were appropriate and necessary," Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said Sunday on ABC's "This Week." "And the administration is certainly prepared to defend them."

If the mandates are a success, they could make the most serious dent in new coronavirus cases since the vaccine first became available, especially with



The Oval Office is visible behind a U.S. Park Service worker waiting in the Rose Garden in Washington, July 13, 2021. About 4 million federal workers, from FBI agents to Bureau of Prisons guards to U.S. Food and Drug Administration workers, are to be vaccinated by Nov. 22 under the president's executive order aimed at stopping the spread of the coronavirus. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File)

the news this past week that children ages 5-11 can get the shot making an additional 64 million people eligible. But with two weeks remaining until the federal worker deadline, some leaders of unions representing the employees say that convincing the unvaccinated to change their mind is increasingly challenging.

"I got the vaccine in February, it was my own choice and I thought it would stop the virus," said Corey Trammel, a Bureau of Prisons correctional officer and local union president in Louisiana. "But it hasn't. And now I have people resigning because they are tired of the government overreach on this, they do not want to get the shot. People just don't trust the government, and they just don't trust this vaccine."

Vaccines have a proven track record of safety, backed by clinical trials and independent reviews showing them overwhelmingly effective at preventing serious illness and death from COVID-19. More than 222 million Americans have received at least one vaccine dose and more than 193 million are fully vaccinated. More than half of the world population has also received a shot.

Scientists have been battling anxiety over the vaccine since it was first authorized; an AP-NORC poll earlier this year found one-third of adults in the U.S. were skeptical, despite assurances the vaccine was safe and effective and few instances of serious side effects. About 70% of American adults are fully vaccinated and 80% have received at least one dose of a vaccine.

Vaccinations have unfolded at uneven rates across the federal government. Officials at Health and Human Services, U.S. Food

and Drug Administration and Housing and Urban Development said they were working on getting their employees vaccinated but had no figures yet.

Several intelligence agencies had at least 20% of their workforce unvaccinated as of late October, said U.S. Rep. Chris Stewart, a Utah Republican who is a member of the House Intelligence Committee.

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association President Larry Cosme said there are about 31,000 members from 65 federal law enforcement agencies in the association and he estimated 60% of them have been vaccinated.

Homeland Security, a giant government department with more than 240,000 employees, was about 64% fully vaccinated by the end of last month. U.S. Customs and Border Protection has received at least 6,000 requests for medical or religious exemptions, according to the union that represents Border Patrol agents. Federal agencies are warning employees about the upcoming mandate, offering time off to get the vaccine and encouraging workers to comply. But they won't be fired if they don't make the Nov. 22 deadline. They would receive "counseling" and be given five days to start the vaccination process. They could then be suspended for 14 days and eventually could be terminated, but that process would take months.

Republicans have argued the mandate goes too far. House Oversight Committee Republicans sent a letter in late October suggesting the president's "authoritarian and extreme mandates infringe upon American freedoms, are unprecedented, and may ultimately be deemed unlawful." □

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# Virginia Dems concede defeat, say Republicans control House

**RICHMOND, Va. (AP)** — Democratic leaders in Virginia conceded Friday that Republicans have won control of the House of Delegates.

The Associated Press has not called all of Virginia's House races yet. But the concession means Republicans would complete an elections sweep in which they also reclaimed the offices of governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general.

House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn issued a statement acknowledging the GOP majority shortly after Democratic Del. Martha Mugler conceded defeat in a tight race against Republican challenger A.C. Cordoza in the 91st House district, located in Virginia's Hampton Roads region. With Mugler's concession, Republicans now expect to hold at least 51 seats in the 100-member chamber.

"While the results of the election were not in our favor, our work for the people of Virginia goes on," said Filler-Corn.

Garren Shipley, a spokesman for House Republican Leader Todd Gilbert, said Filler-Corn called Gilbert on Friday. "The House Repub-



Virginia Gov.-elect Glenn Youngkin arrives to speak at an election night party in Chantilly, Va., early Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021, after he defeated Democrat Terry McAuliffe. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

lican caucus appreciates her pledge to a smooth transition to the incoming majority," Shipley said.

The GOP victories are being seen as a backlash against a Democratic majority that has pushed through a series of progressive reforms over the past two years, including the repeal of the death penalty, a loosening of abortion restrictions and the legalization of marijuana.

Democrats hold a slim 21-19 majority in the Senate. Senators are not up for re-election until 2023.

Tuesday's marquee race in Virginia was the governor's contest, in which Republican businessman Glenn Youngkin defeated former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe. The GOP also captured the lieutenant governor's office after Republican Winsome Sears beat Democrat Hala Ayala, and

the attorney general's office with Republican Jason Miyares' victory over Democratic two-term incumbent Mark Herring. Sears will become the state's first female lieutenant governor and the first woman of color to win statewide office in Virginia.

Youngkin's victory and the near-defeat of New Jersey's Democratic governor have sparked fears that Democrats are on course

to lose control of Congress in next year's midterm elections.

Democrats held a 55-45 majority heading into the election Tuesday.

Republicans had controlled the House since 2000, but Democrats won back 15 GOP-held seats in 2017, helped by voter hostility toward then-President Donald Trump. In 2019, Democrats took full control of the legislature by wiping out slim Republican majorities in the House and Senate.

Among the surprise wins this year was that by Republican Kim Taylor over three-term incumbent Democratic Del. Lashrecse Aird in the 63rd District, which gave Republicans their 50th seat on Wednesday. Aird claimed victory late Tuesday, but a late surge by Taylor gave her a 741-vote win.

Democrat Wendy Gooditis won reelection to her third term in District 10, defeating Republican challenger Nick Clemente, a political newcomer. Gooditis' northern Virginia district includes parts of fast-growing Loudoun County and rural areas in Clarke and Frederick counties. □

# After drinking water crisis, Newark is winning war on lead

**(AP)** — On a recent sun-drenched morning, the staccato rhythms of a jackhammer ricocheted off buildings as a work crew dug into a Newark street to remove an aging pipe that carried water — and potentially a poison — to a small apartment building. The new pipe is copper. The old one was lined with lead, which can be harmful to human health even at minute levels.

The water service line was one of more than 20,000 made with the toxic metal the city began replacing in 2019 amid public outrage over revelations about high lead levels in the tap water in schools and homes across the city.

Less than three years after the work began, the replacement project, initially

projected to take up to 10 years, is nearly complete. City residents who switched to bottled water during the crisis are breathing — and drinking — easier. Newark, once castigated and sued over its sluggish response to the problem, is being held up as a potential national model.

"I'm just happy that it's happening and that it's finally getting taken care of so we finally get to drink tap water again," Newark resident Cesar Velarde said as he watched the crew work. "I have three cases of bottled water right now. I don't drink faucet water no more because of this."

The pipe replacement project has been a vindication of sorts for Mayor Ras Baraka, who faced mounting public pressure in 2018 after

the National Resources Defense Council, a nonprofit environmental advocacy group, sued, claiming New Jersey's largest city had failed to adequately monitor lead levels and had downplayed the problem to residents.

Deteriorating lead-lined pipes, some a century old, are a problem in many older U.S. cities, a recent example being Benton Harbor, Michigan. But Newark's replacement project proceeded faster than expected, thanks to an infusion of state and local funds and an amendment to state law to protect homeowners from having to bear the cost.

"I'll feel better when we're completely finished, but I'm excited that we're at the end of this thing. It'll be



A worker removes an old water pipe from underneath the street before replacing it with new copper pipe in Newark, N.J., Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

a huge milestone for us," Baraka said last week.

Newark's efforts led to the lawsuit being settled last January, and drew praise from the National Resources Defense Council.

"It's a pretty significant turn-

around from the early days when the city was denying they had a lead problem," Erik Olson, NRDC senior strategic director for health, said. "We are pointing to it as a model for other cities to follow. □



# Navy launches ship named for gay rights leader Harvey Milk

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — A Navy ship named for slain gay rights leader Harvey Milk, who served four years in the Navy before being forced out, was christened and launched in San Diego Bay on Saturday.

The replenishment oiler USNS Harvey Milk slid down the shipyard ways after a bottle of champagne was smashed on the bow by former Navy officer Paula M. Neira, clinical program director for the John Hopkins Center for Transgender Health.

Milk's nephew, Stuart Milk, and Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro watched the traditional ceremony.

"The secretary of the Navy needed to be here today, not just to amend the wrongs of the past, but to give inspiration to all of our LGBTQ community leaders who served in the Navy, in uniform today and in the civilian workforce as well too, and to tell them that we're committed to them in the future," Del Toro said.

Del Toro said that, like many others, Milk had to "mask that very important part of his life" while he served in



The U.S. Navy launches the USNS Harvey Milk, a fleet replenishment oiler ship named after the first openly gay elected official, in San Diego, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021. (AP Photo/Alex Gallardo)

the Navy.

"For far too long, sailors like Lt. Milk were forced into the shadows or, worse yet, forced out of our beloved Navy," Del Toro said. "That injustice is part of our Navy history, but so is the perseverance of all who continue to serve in the face of injustice."

Milk was one of the first openly gay candidates elected to public office. He was serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1978 when a former political colleague, Dan White, assassinated him and Mayor George Moscone at City Hall.

In 2016, then-Navy Secre-

tary Ray Mabus decided that six new oilers scheduled to be built would be named after civil and human rights leaders. In addition to Milk, they include Sojourner Truth, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Robert F. Kennedy, suffragist Lucy Stone and Rep. John Lewis of Georgia.

Del Toro told Mabus, who attended the christening, that it was a courageous decision.

"Ship names are important because they express what we value as a Navy and as a nation and communicate those values around the globe in every port of call," Del Toro said.

Stuart Milk, co-founder and president of the Harvey Milk Foundation, thanked Mabus for providing the family details of his uncle's discharge from the Navy.

"He has a less-than-honorable discharge. He was forced to resign because he was gay," Stuart Milk said, adding that "we have to teach our history to prevent ourselves from going backwards and repeating it." Although there is a process for reversing such discharges, he said it was important to not do that for his late uncle in order "to keep the memory of how we did not honor everyone in this very honorable service." The naval tradition of having ship "sponsors" went to Neira and U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who was unable to attend. □

# 90-year sentence tossed in 2019 Mardi Gras bicyclist deaths



New Orleans Police examine damaged cars and bicycles on Esplanade Avenue in New Orleans after a car struck multiple people, killing several and injuring others following the Endymion Mardi Gras parade on Saturday, March 2, 2019. (Michael DeMocker/The Times-Picayune/The New Orleans Advocate via AP, File)

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — A Louisiana appeals court has thrown out the 90-year prison sentence for a drunken driver who struck nine bicycle riders near a Mardi Gras parade route in March 2019, killing two of

them.

The state 4th Circuit Court of Appeal said the judge who sentenced Tashonty Toney failed to sufficiently spell out the reasons for handing out the maximum sentences following

Toney's guilty plea. Therefore, the ruling said, appellate judges could not adequately review Toney's argument that the total sentence was excessive.

The ruling, dated Wednesday, sent the case back to the criminal court in New Orleans for what the panel requested to be a "meaningful sentencing hearing." Blood tests showed Toney was driving with a blood-alcohol level above .21 percent as he sped down New Orleans' prominent Esplanade Avenue, which was bustling with auto, bicycle and pedestrian traffic after the popular parade of the Krewe of Endymion.

Driving at speeds reaching 80 mph (nearly 130 kph), Toney veered at times into the bicycle lane, sending bicycles and their riders flying, court records show. Authorities said he sideswiped other cars and eventually

collided with another vehicle before coming to a stop in the median. He ran away but was followed and held by witnesses until police arrived, according to court records.

The two killed were Sharree Walls, 27, of New Orleans and David Hynes, 31, a Seattle man and Tulane Law School graduate who was visiting during Mardi Gras.

The two died not far from where the Endymion parade — an annual spectacle of huge, brightly lit floats and marching bands — had just passed. Witnesses said at the time that a festive scene was turned to one of bedlam and carnage as bystanders sought to give first aid to those struck.

Toney pleaded guilty in October 2019 to 16 criminal counts, including two counts of vehicular homicide, each of which car-

ried a maximum 30-year sentence. His plea agreement did not include a sentencing agreement.

After a hearing featuring emotional testimony from relatives of those killed, and from some of the injured, Judge Laurie White's sentence included maximum 30-year sentences on each of the negligent homicide counts, and six maximum 5-year sentences for vehicular negligent injuring, according to the appeal court opinion. While White ordered that some of the sentences for other counts be served concurrently, the total sentence for Toney was more than 90 consecutive years, 60 of those without possibility of parole. "Certainly, the pain and suffering caused by defendant's actions are deserving of a harsh penalty of imprisonment," the appeals court ruling said. □



# Nicaragua's Ortega seeks re-election in questioned vote

**Associated Press**

**MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)** — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega sought a fourth consecutive term in elections Sunday against a field of little-known candidates while those who could have given him a real challenge sat in jail.

More than 13,000 polling places opened Sunday morning even as the opposition denounced more arrests of its leaders in activists around the country in the hours leading up to the vote and Ortega railed against alleged interference from the United States.

The opposition called on Nicaraguans to stay home in protest of an electoral process that has been roundly criticized as not credible by foreign powers.

The election will determine who holds the presidency for the next five years, as well as 90 of the 92 seats in the congress and Nicaragua's representation in the Central American Parliament. More than 4.4 million Nicaraguan age 16 and above were eligible to vote.

Ortega's Sandinista Front and its allies control the congress and all government institutions. Ortega first served as president from 1985 to 1990, before returning to power in 2007. He recently declared his



**A woman checks his ID number outside a voting center during general elections in Managua, Nicaragua, Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021. (AP Photo/Andres Nunes)**

wife, Vice President Rosario Murillo, his "co-president." In June, police arrested seven potential presidential challengers on charges that essentially amount to treason. They remained in detention on election day. Some two dozen other opposition leaders were also swept up ahead of the elections.

The other contenders on Sunday's ballot were little known politicians from minor parties seen as friendly with Ortega's Sandinista Front.

On Saturday, the Blue and White National Union, an opposition alliance, issued

an alert after at least eight of its leaders were "abducted by the regime in illegal raids" Saturday afternoon and evening.

The Civic Alliance, another opposition coalition, reported "harassment, surveillance, intimidation, assault, attacks, illegal and arbitrary detentions" of some of its leaders around Nicaragua.

Around midday, Ortega spoke live on television after voting — he held up his inked finger.

He blasted the United States for interference in Nicaragua, noted there had been alleged fraud in the

last U.S. election, reminded that those who stormed the U.S. Capitol were called terrorists and remain jailed. He repeated his claim that the U.S. government supported huge protests in Nicaragua in April 2018, which he has called an attempted coup. "They have as much right as we do to open trials against terrorists," Ortega said.

"The immense majority of Nicaraguans are voting for peace and not for war or terrorism," he said.

One of the first to vote Sunday was Foreign Minister Denis Moncada at a secondary school in the capi-

tal. "The majority of Nicaraguans are going to elect today Commander Daniel (Ortega), comrade Rosario (Murillo) and the deputies," Moncada said to pro-government news outlets.

He said the peaceful vote sends a message to the world powers that "Nicaraguans are dignified patriots and we are not going to bend to their threats, sanctions and non-recognition of the elections."

Presidential candidate Guillermo Osorno of the small Christian Path party voted early Sunday. He promised that if he defeated Ortega he would "change the electoral system" and allow election observers.

Meanwhile in Costa Rica, hundreds of Nicaraguans living in exile there protested against Ortega's government, calling Sunday's vote an "electoral circus" and demanding the release of political prisoners.

"We are protesting against the fraud and asking for justice for those killed," said Kevin Monzón, a young influencer who fled to Costa Rica in late September after receiving threats.

With little doubt as to the presidential election result, focus is already turning to what the international response will be as Ortega seeks to tighten his grip on power. □

# German rescue boat with 800 migrants reaches Sicilian port

**By FRANCES D'EMILIO**

**Associated Press**

**ROME (AP)** — A German humanitarian ship with more than 800 rescued migrants, including 15 very young children, steamed into a Sicilian port on Sunday after being granted permission by Italian authorities following days of waiting in the Mediterranean Sea.

The charity group Sea-Eye said the vessel Sea-Eye 4 was assigned to the port of Trapani, in western Sicily, on Saturday evening.

Most of the adults were to be transferred to other ships for preventative quarantine against COVID-19, while some 160 minors, in-

cluding babies and other children younger than 4, were to be taken to shelters on land.

Many of the passengers came from countries in West Africa, Egypt or Morocco, said Giovanna di Benedetto, an official from Save the Children in Italy. Shouts of joy from those aboard Sea-Eye 4 could be heard on Trapani's dock as the vessel drew near, SkyTG24 TV reported.

About half of the migrants were rescued from a sinking wooden boat on Nov. 4, while the other passengers had been plucked to safety from the sea in separate operations.

Sea-Eye officials lamented that Malta, a European Union island nation in the central Mediterranean, hadn't responded to the wooden boat's distress signal in its own search area. Meanwhile, another charity ship, Ocean Viking, with 306 migrants aboard, many of them feeling ill in rough seas, was still awaiting assignment of a port near Lampedusa, a tiny Italian island south of Sicily, said the humanitarian organization SOS Mediterranee, which operates the ship.

Earlier Sunday, in waters off Lampedusa, an Italian Coast Guard boat pulled up alongside Ocean Viking



**The Sea Eye 4 ship with over 800 rescued people on board arrives in Trapani, Sicily, Italy, Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021. (Alberto Lo Bianco/LaPresse via AP)**

to evacuate two brothers, both minors, whose health conditions had worsened,

SOS Mediterranee tweeted. Four others were evacuated on Saturday. □



# U.N. Security Council calls for end to Ethiopia hostilities

By **EDITH M. LEDERER**

**Associated Press**

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — The U.N. Security Council called for an end to the intensifying and expanding conflict in Ethiopia on Friday, and for unhindered access for humanitarian aid to tackle the world's worst hunger crisis in a decade in the war-torn Tigray region. The U.N.'s most powerful body expressed serious concern about the impact of the conflict on "the stability of the country and the wider region," and called on all parties to refrain "from inflammatory hate speech and incitement to violence and divisiveness."

The press statement was approved by the 15 council members the day after the first anniversary of the war in the northern Tigray region that has killed thousands of people and displaced millions. It was only the council's second statement on the conflict, and the first to address the worsening conflict.

"Today the Security Council breaks six months of silence and speaks again with one united voice on the deeply concerning situation in Ethiopia," said Ireland's



**Current and former Ethiopian military personnel and the public commemorate federal soldiers killed by forces loyal to the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) at a candlelight event in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021. (AP Photo/File)**

U.N. Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason. "For the first time, the Council clearly calls for a cessation of hostilities. We believe this should happen immediately, and that all civilians must be protected."

The statement was drafted by Ireland, Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and St. Vincent and The Grenadines. Those countries and the United States had called

for an open Security Council meeting on Ethiopia on Friday afternoon, but it was postponed until early next week, probably Monday. Diplomats said African Union representatives weren't available to participate so the meeting was delayed.

The council called on the parties "to put an end to hostilities and to negotiate a lasting cease-fire, and

for the creation of conditions for the start of an inclusive Ethiopian national dialogue to resolve the crisis and create the foundation for peace and stability throughout the country." Council members said the language in the statement was watered down after objections from Russia to the original statement which "called on all parties to immediately end hostili-

ties without preconditions." But the statement, read by Mexico's U.N. Ambassador Juan Ramon De La Fuente Ramirez, the current council president, did call for an end to hostilities -- though without the word immediately. It did single out "the expansion and intensification of military clashes in northern Ethiopia."

In recent weeks, the conflict has expanded, with Tigray forces seizing key cities on a major highway leading to Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, and linking up with another armed group, the Oromo Liberation Army, with which it struck an alliance in August.

Months of political tensions between Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government and the Tigray leaders who once dominated Ethiopia's government exploded into war last November.

Following some of the fiercest fighting of the conflict, Ethiopia soldiers fled the Tigray capital, Mekele, in June. Facing the current Tigray offensive, president Abiy declared a national state of emergency with sweeping detention powers on Tuesday. □

# Oil tanker explodes in Sierra Leone, killing at least 98



**In this photograph issued Saturday Nov. 6 2021 by Sierra Leone's National Disaster Management Agency, people gather around the charred oil tanker that exploded after being struck by a truck in the Wellington suburb of Sierra Leone's capital Freetown Saturday Nov. 6, 2021. Scores died in the explosion that happened late Friday Nov. 5. (NDMA via AP)**

By **Clarence Roy-Macaulay and Krista Larson**

**Associated Press**

**FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP)** — An oil tanker truck exploded near Sierra Le-

one's capital, killing at least 98 people and severely injuring dozens of others after large crowds gathered to collect leaking fuel, officials and witnesses said Satur-

day.

The explosion took place late Friday when the tanker collided with another truck as it was pulling into a gas station near a busy intersection in Wellington, just east of the capital of Freetown, according to the National Disaster Management Agency.

"Both drivers came out of their vehicles and warned community residents to stay off the scene while trying to address a leakage emanating from the collision," the agency said.

In this deeply impoverished country, however, crowds still rushed in to scoop up the fuel, witnesses said. It was not immediately known what caused the leaking fuel to ignite but a massive explosion soon followed.

Video obtained by The Associated Press showed a giant fireball burning in the night sky as some survivors with severe burns cried out in pain. The charred remains of some victims lay strewn at the scene, awaiting transport to mortuaries. Nearly 100 injured people were taken to area hospitals, officials said. About 30 severely burned people at Connaught Hospital were not expected to survive, according to Foday Musa, a staff member in its intensive care unit.

Injured people whose clothes had burned off in the fire that followed the explosion lay naked on stretchers as nurses attended to them Saturday. Hundreds of people milled outside the main gates of the mortuary and near the

hospital's main entrance, waiting for word of their loved ones.

Osman Timbo, said his 13-year-old brother, Mohamed, was among those who had died.

"He left home and said he was going to buy bread for us to eat," Timbo said. "When I heard about the explosion, I went to the scene and I saw my younger brother lying down and he was burned all over. I felt so bad. I loved him so much!"

Hospital officials called in as many doctors and nurses as they could overnight to tend to the wounded. The country's health care sector is still recovering from the 2014-2016 Ebola epidemic, which killed many of the West African nation's doctors and nurses. □



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## Knife attack on German train severely injures 3 people

Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — A knife attack on a high-speed train in Germany left three people severely wounded, the Bavarian Red Cross said Saturday. Police said a man has been arrested in connection with the morning attack.

The train, one of Germany's high-speed ICE trains, was traveling between the Bavarian cities of Regensburg and Nuremberg at the time of the attack. A spokesperson for the Bavarian Red Cross, which had 110 responders at the scene, said the organization processed three "severely injured" people.

A 27-year-old Syrian man was arrested in Seubersdorf, where the train stopped after the attack, Bavarian state police told The Associated Press. The injured people came from the Regensburg and nearby Passau areas, state po-



An ICE train stands at the station in Seubersdorf, southern Germany, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021. There has been a knife attack in the ICE between Regensburg and Nuremberg. Several people were injured, according to police. A man was arrested. (Vifogra/dpa via AP)

lice said.

In addition, 200 to 300 other people from the train were

taken off and brought to a nearby location, the Bavarian Red Cross spokesperson said.

Local police told The Associated Press they received a call about the attack around 9 a.m.

Interior Minister Horst Seehofer said the background behind the "terrible" attack was "still unclear." He said people in Seubersdorf, a municipality 473 kilometers (294 miles) south of Berlin, faced no "acute danger."

"I hope that those injured and those who witnessed this will recover quickly and completely," Seehofer said. A spokesperson for the German railway network confirmed that the station in Seubersdorf was closed and that train travel between Regensburg and Nuremberg was suspended. Long-distance train service has since been re-routed via the nearby city of Ingolstadt. □

## Pompeii dig yields rare window on daily life of enslaved

By Colleen Barry

**MILAN (AP)** — Archeologists in Pompeii excavating a villa amid the ruins of the 79 A.D. volcanic eruption that destroyed the ancient city have discovered a cramped dormitory and storage room that offers "a very rare insight into the daily life of slaves," officials said Saturday.

Italy's culture minister, Dario Franceschini, said the find was "an important discovery that enriches the knowledge of the daily life of ancient Pompeians, in particular the level of society still little known."

The room was discovered in a villa in the Pompeii suburb of Civita Giuliana, just a few steps from where archeologists in January discovered

the remains of a well-preserved ceremonial chariot. The room, with just one high window and no wall decorations, contains the remains of three beds made out of wood. The beds were adjustable, with two measuring 1.7 meters (nearly 5 feet, 7 inches) and one just 1.4 meters (4 feet, 7 inches), possibly indicating that a family with a child had lived there.

Nearby, a wooden chest contained metallic objects and textiles that "appear to be part of harnesses for horses," according to the archeological park. There also was a wooden steering element for a chariot. Chamber pots and other personal objects were under the beds, while eight

amphorae — an ancient vessel used as a storage jar — were in a corner, suggesting storage for the household.

"We can imagine here the servants, the slaves who worked in this area and came to sleep here at night," said Gabriel Zuchtriegel, the director of Pompeii Archeological Park. "We know that it was definitely a life in precarious conditions."

The villa, with a panoramic view of the Mediterranean Sea on the outskirts of the ancient Roman city, is considered one of the most significant recent finds at Pompeii. It was discovered after police came across illegal tunnels dug by alleged looters in 2017.




A view of the latest finding in Pompeii, Italy. Archeologists, excavating a villa amid the ruins of the 79 A.D. volcanic eruption, have discovered a room that served as both a dormitory and storage area, which officials said Saturday offered "a very rare insight the daily life of slaves."

Archaeologists also have uncovered the skeletal remains of two people, believed to have been a

wealthy man and his male slave, who were stricken by volcanic ash attempting to escape death. □






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## Over 125,000 Fit2fly tests completed!

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MedCare's fit2fly test centers offer your best option for the post vacation COVID-19 test which has been a requirement since January 26th 2021 by the U.S. before returning home. All passengers going to the United States, including U.S. citizens, are required to have a negative (antigen or PCR) COVID-19 test result of a test taken maximum three days prior to boarding the flight, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19. MedCare's testing centers in and close to the hotels provide you with an easy and secure solution.

MedCare Clinic, a high-quality medical clinic that is specialized in urgent care for tourists and that has been appointed as the national COVID-19 clinic for tourists, and Laboratorio di Servizio, a full-service modern medical laboratory with state-of-the-art equipment, have partnered up to provide fast and reliable COVID-19 testing to all. Laboratorio di Servizio is ISO-15189:2012 accredited by the Dutch Council for Accreditation (M317).

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cations at a stone's throw from your resort, condominium, or other vacation accommodation. Walk-ins are welcome. It is recommended that the tests are done timely, as the negative test is only accepted if taken up to three days before boarding your flight. MedCare Fit2Fly Testing Center at the Cove Mall is opposite the Holiday Inn and is open every day for walk-ins from 8 AM through 6 PM. MedCare's other location is situated at The Courtyard Aruba Resort, is across the street from the RIU Hotel and is open every day from 8:00 AM until 2 PM.

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## Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!

**NOORD** - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.



to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass. The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry! Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges. Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems. For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks. It's hard to believe the

short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass. Each colored gem on the beach has its own story. The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights. Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles. If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be



in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day! Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes. Funny, how trash can change into treasures! Everybody knows that you

are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! ☐

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass. The name for any piece of glass that finds its way



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## Amazing things to know about Aruba



1. Everyone native Aruban speaks four languages; English, Spanish, Dutch and Papiamentu. Dutch and Papiamentu are the official languages of Aruba.
2. The origin of Papiamentu is still a bit of a mystery. However, Arubans say that it was developed from Portugeuse-African pidgin which was used as the language for communication between slaves and slave traders. There are also some Dutch and Spanish influences.
3. In most schools in Aruba children have all their lessons in Dutch. They can only speak Papiamentu during the Papiamentu class.
4. Aruba is a former Dutch colony. It is now its own country. However, Aruba is still part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
5. Aruba is not in Hurricane Alley, which means there's no BAD time to visit Aruba.
6. Aruba's currency is the Aruban florin which is worth about 0.56 US Dollars. Dollars are accepted everywhere though.
7. The crime rate in Aruba is pretty low. It is one of the safest islands in the Caribbean.
8. Carnival in Aruba is a BIG DEAL. It's not just Brazil! There's parades, Carnival Queen elections, dance competitions and more. So if you're in Aruba in February, make sure to attend one of the many Carnival events. Let's see if Covid will allow us to have carnival back in 2022.
9. We produce our own drinking water thanks to their desalination plant. You can drink the water straight from the taps. The electricity on the island is also a by-product of the desalinisation plant.
10. Aruba is home to a rare species of the burrowing owl. It lives in burrows in the ground hidden by cacti. It is one of Aruba's national symbols and appears on postage stamps.
11. Before Covid Aruba had over a million tourists visit its shores. That's around 10 times the local population.
12. There are over 90 different nationalities living on the island in pretty much perfect harmony
13. The Aruban flag was adopted in 1976.
14. Aruba's national day is March 18th. Just after St. Patrick's day.

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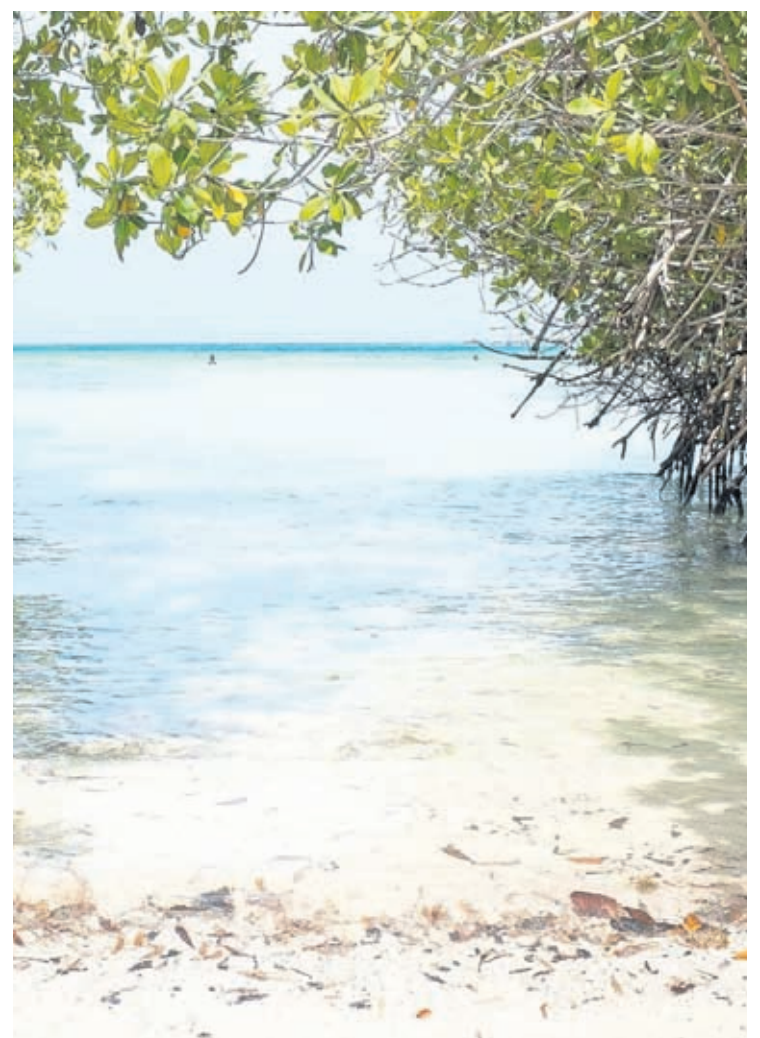


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## China's exports stay strong, trade surplus tops \$80 billion

**Associated Press**

**BEIJING (AP)** — China's exports remained strong in October, a positive sign for an economy trying to weather power shortages and COVID-19 outbreaks. The country's customs agency said Sunday that exports totaled \$300.2 billion, up 27.1% from a year ago. That was down from a 28.1% increase in September but still healthy. Imports came in at \$215.7 billion, a 20.6% rise.

Exports and imports are

much higher than a year ago, when much of the world was in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is widespread concern that economic headwinds are slowing growth. The world's second-largest economy grew 4.9% in the three months ending in September, down from 7.9% in the previous quarter.

China's trade surplus in October was \$84.5 billion, up from \$66.8 billion the previous month, the customs



A worker in protective overall works near containers on a ship in Qingdao in east China's Shandong province Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021.

(Chinatopix Via AP)



China immigration inspection officers in protective overalls march near a container ship at a port in Qingdao in eastern China's Shandong province Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021.

(Chinatopix via AP)

agency said. The surplus with the U.S. was down slightly to \$40.7 billion, compared to \$42 billion in September. With the EU, it was \$25.9 billion.

China and the U.S. are mired in a trade war that dates from the administration of former President Donald Trump. The U.S. im-

posed tariffs on Chinese products, and China retaliated with tariffs on American ones. U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said last month that she planned frank talks with her Chinese counterparts over their differences.

China's economy has been buffeted by the govern-

ment's tough COVID-19-related restrictions, which have depressed domestic travel and consumer demand, and power shortages that have pushed down factory production. Regulators are also cracking down on debt-laden real estate developers, slowing the housing market. □

## Supply chain woes lead to pricy outdoor recreation products

**By Sarah Mulholland**

**Associated Press**

**(AP)** — There are millions of dollars of camping equipment and apparel stuck on ships sitting in a harbor right now. That's a big part of the reason the company Kelty — known for its backpacks and sleeping bags — will be raising prices later this month.

Problems in the global supply chain are creating big headaches for businesses — and for shoppers that are dealing with long waits and higher prices.

No industry has been spared, and that includes the vast market for outdoor recreation equipment. Coloradans should be prepared to pay a little more for gear when heading to the mountains for the foreseeable future.

Russ Rowell oversees Kelty and a number of other outdoor brands for

Broomfield-based Exxel Outdoors. He said retailers had to absorb some of the recent shockwaves in order to keep prices manageable. "If we were to pass on the full breadth of the impact ... I don't believe consumers would be camping anymore," Rowell said. Starting Nov. 15, the price of a Kelty camping chair will go from \$109 to \$139, he said.

— The making of a supply chain traffic jam.

The logjam started with a surge in demand for goods from people stuck at home during the pandemic, according to Randy White, the CEO of Wheel Pros, a Greenwood Village-based company that designs and manufactures specialized wheels, including those used on Jeeps and SUVs for driving off-road.

Supply chain snags have only continued to get

worse, he said. "It's like once somebody steps on the brakes in traffic and all of a sudden you have hundreds of cars backed up on I-70 ... It's a chain reaction all the way through the system," White said. The network that gets stuff from point A to point B is a global web of ports and highways, ships and trucks and planes. And, of course — people. There are countless ways for things to go wrong. But up until recently, things mostly got to where they needed to be, when they needed to be there.

These days, there are hiccups every step of the way. For example, a COVID-19 case could shut down a port in Asia. Finally, it opens back up and ships leave, but when they get to the U.S., the ports are clogged. On top of that, there might not be enough

workers to move the cargo after it's unloaded.

It can start with simply getting goods aboard a ship, according to Steve Hoogendoorn, cofounder at Yeti Cycles, a mountain bike manufacturer in Golden. His shop booked space on a ship that never materialized.

"They call them ghost sailings, when they just don't actually show up," Hoogendoorn said.

The time it takes to get a shipment from Asia to his workshop in Golden has quadrupled, and it can be as long as four months, he said.

Shipping costs are skyrocketing because everybody is desperate to get their products, and forced to pay whatever it takes. Before the pandemic, it cost between \$1,500 to \$2,000 to get a container from Asia, according to White.

In September, it was \$15,000, he said.

— Now, even the products have to adapt.

The various hold-ups are even changing the products themselves.

Dave Bombard owns Bishop, a two-person operation out of Edwards that handcrafts bindings for Telemark skiing. It's an intricate process, involving roughly 60 parts, Bombard said. For one critical component, Bombard was using a particular thickness of sheet metal.

"This is the part that basically holds the boot in ... it is kind of the key. This one part holds the heel of the boot to the binding," he said. He ended up having to redesign the binding when his supplier told him he wasn't going to get the material in time for winter. Bombard raised his prices by 10 percent. □



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Places

1 Scissors sound close

5 Trades 41 Church

10 Volcano reply

flow

11 "Phooey!"

13 Smell

14 Feel bad about

15 Castle defense

17 "Roses — red"

18 Guile

19 Game cube

20 Make a choice

21 Trend determiner

22 Easy —

25 Grows, as the moon

26 Herring's cousin

27 Golf goal

28 Road sealer

29 Umbrella look-alike

33 Stretch of years

34 Radius or ulna

35 Money-back offer

37 Norse god

38 Second place medal

## DOWN

1 Feeds the

pigs

2 Tennis star

Rafael

3 Tusk material

4 Unduly suspicious

5 Most tender

6 Sharpens

7 Bol. neighbor

8 Contradictory idea

## Saturday's answer

9 Like 24 Tale with

surgical a moral

tools 25 Balmy

12 Hardens 27 Kitchen

16 Le knives

Pew of 29 — Noster

cartoons 30 City of sin

21 Trajectory 31 Chilled

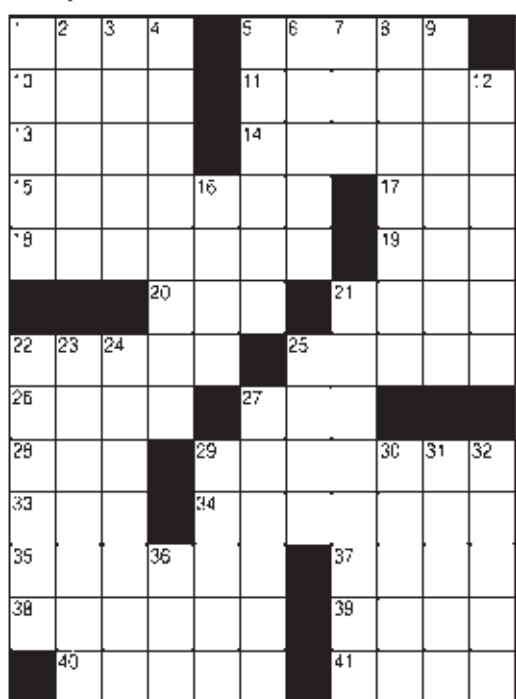
shape 32 Red

22 Fall Square

flowers name

23 Get a 36 Gardner

cut of of film



11-8

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-8

## CRYPTOQUOTE

MTAJDI GTI IXVI IXD DYAIK  
CDPEJXIN IT MDDP LTRA VYAD  
MDDI YGC IXD UEGCN PTGI  
IT ZPYL UEIX LTRA XYEA

IIXYPEP JEVAYG

Saturday's Cryptoquote: YOU CAN GAIN MORE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE BY PAYING CLOSER ATTENTION TO THE LITTLE THINGS. — EMILY DICKINSON

# Crowd surge kills at least 8 at Houston music festival



Travis Scott performs at Day 1 of the Astroworld Music Festival at NRG Park on Friday, Nov. 5, 2021, in Houston. (Photo by Amy Harris/Invision/AP)

By JUAN A. LOZANO

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The crowd at a Houston music festival suddenly surged toward the stage during a performance by rapper Travis Scott, squeezing fans so tightly together that they could not breathe or move their arms and killing eight people in the chaos.

The pandemonium unfolded Friday evening at Astroworld, a sold-out, two-day event in NRG Park with an estimated 50,000 people in attendance. As a timer clicked down to the start of the performance, the crowd pushed forward.

"As soon as he jumped out on the stage, it was like an energy took over and everything went haywire," concertgoer Niaara Goods said. "All of a sudden, your ribs are being crushed. You have someone's arm in your neck. You're trying to breathe, but you can't."

Goods said she was so desperate to get out that she bit a man on the shoulder to get him to move.

The dead ranged in age from 14 to 27, and 13 people were still hospitalized Saturday, Mayor Sylvester Turner said. He called the disaster "a tragedy on many different levels" and said it was too early to draw conclusions about what went wrong.

"It may well be that this tragedy is the result of unpredictable events, of circumstances coming together that couldn't possibly have been avoided," said Judge Lina Hidalgo, Harris County's top elected

official. "But until we determine that, I will ask the tough questions."

Experts who have studied deaths caused by crowd surges say they are often a result of density — too many people packed into a small space. The crowd is often running either away from a perceived threat or toward something they want, such as a performer, before hitting a barrier.

G. Keith Still, a visiting professor of crowd science at the United Kingdom's University of Suffolk, has testified as an expert witness in court cases involving crowds. He said he usually does not look at eyewitness reports in the early stages of analyzing an incident because emotions can cloud the picture, and witnesses can see only what's immediately around them.

"It was the crowd control at the point of the stage that was the issue, especially as the crowd began to surge toward the stage," Peña said.

The deaths called to mind a 1979 concert by the Who where 11 people died as thousands of fans tried to get into Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum. Other past crowd catastrophes include the deaths of 97 people in an overcrowded Hillsborough Stadium in 1989 in Sheffield, England, and numerous disasters connected with the annual hajj in Saudi Arabia.

People in the Houston crowd reported lots of pushing and shoving during the performances leading

up to Scott's set.

Then when Scott took the stage, the crowd seemed to rush to the front, trying to get closer to the stage, said Nick Johnson, a high school senior from the Houston suburb of Friendswood who was at the concert.

Johnson said fans started to crush each other, and people started screaming. He said it felt like 100 degrees in the crowd.

Scott seemed to be aware that something was going on in the crowd, but he might not have understood the severity of the situation, Johnson said.

On video posted to social media, Scott could be seen stopping the concert at one point and asking for aid for someone in the audience: "Security, somebody help real quick."

In a tweet posted Saturday, Scott said he was "absolutely devastated by what took place last night." He pledged to work "together with the Houston community to heal and support the families in need."

Amy Harris, a freelance photographer for The Associated Press, described an "aggressive" crowd atmosphere throughout the day because of the way fans were behaving — pushing and rushing the stage barricades and prohibited VIP and admission areas.

Houston Police Chief Troy Finner said his department noticed attendees "going down" at 9:30 p.m. and immediately notified concert organizers. The event was called off 40 minutes later after discussions that included the fire department and officials with NRG Park. Finner defended the amount of time it took for the event to be canceled.

"You cannot just close when you've got 50,000 — over 50,000 — individuals, OK?" Finner said. "We have to worry about rioting — riots — when you have a group that's that young."

At one point, Gerardo Abad-Garcia was pressed so tightly into the crowd that he could not move his arms off his chest. □



# Plenty of pitfalls await Zuckerberg's 'metaverse' plan

**Associated Press**

(AP) - When Mark Zuckerberg announced ambitious plans to build the "metaverse" — a virtual reality construct intended to supplant the internet, merge virtual life with real life and create endless new playgrounds for everyone — he promised that "you're going to be able to do almost anything you can imagine."

That might not be such a great idea.

Zuckerberg, CEO of the company formerly known as Facebook, even renamed it Meta to underscore the significance of the effort. During his late October presentation, he effused about going to virtual concerts with your friends, fencing with holograms of Olympic athletes and — best of all — joining mixed-reality business meetings where some participants are physically present while others beam in from the metaverse as cartoony avatars.

But it's just as easy to imagine dystopian downsides. Suppose the metaverse also enables a vastly larger, yet more personal version of the harassment and hate that Facebook has been slow to deal with on today's internet? Or ends up with the same big tech companies that have tried to control the current internet serving as gatekeepers to its virtual-reality edition? Or evolves into a vast collection of virtual gated communities where every visitor is constantly monitored, analyzed and barraged with advertisements? Or foregoes any attempt to curtail user freedom, allowing scammers, human traffickers and cybergangs to commit crimes with impunity?

Picture an online troll campaign — but one in which the barrage of nasty words you might see on social media is instead a group of angry avatars yelling at you, with your only escape being to switch off the machine, said Amie Stepanovich, executive director of Silicon Flatirons at the University of Colorado.



Seen on the screen of a device in Sausalito, Calif., Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announces the company's new name, Meta, during a virtual event on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021.

"We approach that differently — having somebody scream at us than having somebody type at us," she said.

"There is a potential for that harm to be really ramped up."

That's one reason Meta might not be the best institution to lead us into the metaverse, said Philip Rosedale, founder of the virtual escape Second Life, which was an internet craze 15 years ago and still attracts hundreds of thousands of online inhabitants.

The danger is creating online public spaces that appeal only to a "polarized, homogenous group of people," said Rosedale,

describing Meta's flagship VR product, Horizon, as filled with "presumptively male participants" and a bullying tone. In a safety tutorial, Meta has advised Horizon users to treat fellow avatars kindly and offers tips for blocking, muting or reporting those who don't, but Rosedale said it's going to take more than a "schoolyard monitor" approach to avoid a situation that rewards the loudest shouters.

"Nobody's going to come to that party, thank goodness," he said. "We're not going to move the human creative engine into that sphere."

A better goal, he said,

would be to create systems that are welcoming and flexible enough to allow people who don't know each other to get along as well as they might in a real place like New York's Central Park. □



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# Álvarez stops Plant to become undisputed 168-pound champ



**Canelo Alvarez, of Mexico, knocks down Caleb Plant to win a super middleweight title unification fight Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Steve Marcus)**

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — With a destructive barrage of power punches in the waning minutes of a difficult fight, Canelo Álvarez added another achievement to his overflowing list of boxing accomplishments.

The Mexican pound-for-pound superstar is the undisputed super middleweight champion of the world.

Álvarez became the first four-belt world champion at 168 pounds in boxing history Saturday night, stopping Caleb Plant in the 11th with two dramatic knock-downs.

Álvarez (57-1-2, 39 KOs) added Plant's IBF title to his own WBC, WBA and WBO belts with a steady tactical performance culminating in a display of his vaunted power to finish the previously unbeaten Plant at the MGM Grand Garden Arena.

"It was truly a historic night, and I'm so proud to be a part of it," Álvarez said.

Canelo is generally recognized as the top fighter in the world regardless of weight class. After battering the bigger Plant with dozens of punches that finally accumulated to

leave Plant crumpled on the canvas, Álvarez had complete dominance at 168 pounds — just as he planned when he came out of the pandemic break with a goal to win every super middleweight belt.

After winning four fights in a grueling 11-month span, Canelo is the sixth man to be a four-belt champion. He joined junior welterweight Josh Taylor as the only current undisputed champs of their weight class.

"I'm proud to be one of the six," Álvarez said through a translator before dedicating the win to his Mexican fans.

After stopping three of his previous four opponents, Álvarez had to grind through a challenging matchup with the tenacious Plant (21-1), who usually moved backward and worked behind his jab to stay away from Canelo's power.

Álvarez remained persistent and racked up a volume of quality punches — and in the opening seconds of the 11th, he sent Plant crashing to the canvas with a vicious combination followed by an uppercut while Plant

tried to duck away.

"This fight itself was exactly as I envisioned it," Álvarez said. "The first few rounds, they were tough, but then it turned out just how we expected. We were able to execute our game plan, and we're really happy with how it turned out."

Plant got up unsteadily, and Álvarez dropped him again with two big right hands, forcing referee Russell Mora to end it at 1:05 of the 11th round.

Plant is a sturdy champion and an inspirational athlete who overcame numerous personal tragedies to earn a shot at the pound-for-pound champ, but the Tennessee native found out just how big the gap remains between Canelo and his contemporaries.

Álvarez landed more than 32% of his 361 punches, while Plant connected on just 23% of his 441 shots, which included 232 jabs — more than twice as many as Canelo. Álvarez excelled in power punches, landing 40% of 251 power shots while wearing down Plant.

Álvarez is the first Mexican fighter to reign undisputed atop a division, and every

flag-waving fan in the vehemently pro-Canelo sellout crowd of 16,586 seemed aware of the achievement. The champion, a Guadalajara native, spoke frequently before the fight of his determination to achieve the feat both for himself and for Mexico.

Álvarez extended the most successful active career in boxing with his eighth consecutive victory in just over three years. He hasn't lost in 16 fights since dropping a majority decision to Floyd Mayweather in 2013, with only a draw against Gennady Golovkin blemishing his record.

After this uncommonly busy 11-month stretch, Canelo had no immediate announcement about his future. He is taking the rest of the year off, and he expects to figure out his next move by January when he was rested and recharged. "The training sessions, trying to make weight, that's when you feel the tiredness of it all," Álvarez said. "Right now, I feel great. My body is responding splendidly. Now I just need some time to rest and to prepare for the next challenge."

Álvarez and Plant had no

personal animus until September, when Álvarez took offense to an insult from Plant during a news conference in Beverly Hills to promote the bout. Álvarez and Plant briefly scrapped, leaving Plant with a cut on his face and a new avenue of motivation.

Plant opened the biggest bout of his career with a solid game plan, tapping Álvarez with a solid jab and moving away from his opponent's superior power, frequently using a shoulder roll to avoid trouble. Álvarez steadily walked down Plant and did damage in the fourth, backing him against the ropes and letting combinations fly.

Álvarez showed little fear of Plant's punches, and he got even less heedful as the bout progressed. Álvarez gradually landed more effectively in the middle rounds, moving Plant backward and even daring the cautious Plant to hit him in the seventh.

Boxing gets frequent, deserved criticism as an institution for the promoter rivalries and fractious sanctioning bodies that prevent the best fighters from meeting each other far too often. But Álvarez used his star power to join an elite club by winning all four major belts.

Only five men had ever achieved four-belt undisputed champion status since the feat became possible with the WBO's advent: middleweights Bernard Hopkins and Jermain Taylor, junior welterweights Terence Crawford and Taylor, and cruiserweight Oleksandr Usyk.

Taylor achieved the feat in May by beating Jose Ramirez. His first simultaneous defense of all four belts is scheduled for February in Glasgow against Jack Catterall. In the co-main event, super middleweight veteran Anthony Dirrell earned his first win in nearly three years by stopping Marcos Hernandez in the opening moments of the fourth round with a vicious uppercut. The 37-year-old Dirrell celebrated with a standing backflip. □



# NBA to players, coaches, refs: Booster shots are recommended

**MIAMI (AP)** — The NBA told its players, coaches and referees on Sunday that they should receive booster shots against the coronavirus, with particular urgency for those who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The league and the National Basketball Players Association — working jointly based on guidance from the NBA's public health and infectious disease experts — said those who received Johnson & Johnson shots more than two months ago should get a booster. The booster recommendation also was made for those who received the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine at least six months ago.

The league recommendations, which were obtained by The Associated Press, called for those who got Johnson & Johnson vaccines originally to seek a Pfizer or Moderna booster. Those who got Pfizer or Moderna may simply get whatever booster is available, the league said.

Data used to make the league's determinations showed that antibody levels for Pfizer and Moderna recipients wane after six months, and after two months for Johnson & Johnson recipients.

Some teams already have been planning for players to receive booster shots when available. A small number of previously vaccinated NBA players have tested positive this season for COVID-19 and entered the league's health and safety protocols.

Among those sidelined of late: Philadelphia's Tobias Harris, who had symptoms, 76ers coach Doc Rivers said.

"He's doing OK but not great, honestly. ... It hit him for sure," Rivers said last

week. "A lot of guys have had this and they are mad, like 'What the hell, I'm fine.' Tobias is not in that category right now, I can tell you that."

In some cases, those who are vaccinated but elect to not receive a booster would be subjected to game-day testing again starting Dec. 1, the NBA said. That Dec. 1 date varies depending on when the person was originally vaccinated and what type of vaccine they received.

About 97% of NBA players were believed to be vaccinated when the season started last month. In the U.S., nearly 60% of the population — more than 193 million people — are fully vaccinated. More than 21 million have received a



Philadelphia 76ers head coach Doc Rivers looks towards referee Tre Maddox during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Detroit Pistons, Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021, in Detroit. (AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)

booster dose, and those numbers are soaring each day. □

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If you're looking for a phenomenal dinner experience that has all the ingredients for a wonderful gastronomic night, then you should book at least one night of your stay at Water's Edge Restaurant. Designed to pamper all your senses and cover all of your needs with an amazing staff to attend to your every wish, whether in the fine dining room or under a palapa with your toes in the sand.

### Gastronomic journey

Kick start the night with a great, refreshing and most delicious cocktail mixed with concoctions before the grand tour of an extraordinary culinary experience. Start your journey with an exquisite appetizer such as the daily fresh made Water's Edge ceviche or maybe a world known jumbo shrimp cocktail followed by the Chef's special of seafood



such as the Spicy Caribbean Seafood pasta, Mahi Mahi or pan fried Red Snapper served with Aruban creole sauce or garlic lemon butter. For the carnivores among us there are choices of 8 ounce seasoned Filet Mignon, 12 ounce Rib Eye steak or a French Rack of Lamb seasoned and grilled to perfection. With choices of extra sides of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wines from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu. Vegetarians will enjoy the roasted vegetable pasta tossed in a light butter sauce and topped with freshly shaved parmesan cheese. As desserts the choices are wild. Homemade key lime pie, coconut flan served with caramel sauce and whipped cream or a NY cheese cake, chocolate brownie with chocolate sauce vanilla ice cream and whipped cream or a delicious oven fresh carrot cake served with orange sauce and candied pecans.



Whether it is the best seafood, steaks, chicken, pasta, or your continental favorites the reasonably priced menu offers a modern twist and features generous portions and Chef's specials.

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### Live entertainment:

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. On Monday & Saturday, Angela Flores, will delight you with her violin. Tuesday, Jean Paul, Saxophonist, will get you moving.

On Wednesday's and Sunday's singer Paula Ridderstap will make you sing along to all her tunes. Thursday's and Friday's guitarist Ricky Thomas will make you find your groove. And also on Sunday's Tico Kock will make you dance away to the sounds of his steel drum. Whether you're in a romantic mood or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you. In addition, the best happy hour in Aruba happens right here. Water's Edge Restaurant offers three Happy Hours daily (12 noon – 1 pm, 4 pm – 6 pm, with complimentary hors d'oeuvres served by circulating staff, and again from 9 pm – 10 pm) with all premium brands specially priced.

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